

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF JULY 15th, 1936

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, on Wednesday, July 15th, 1936, at ten-thirty o'clock A. M.

Present:

Harry W. Nice, Governor
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller

Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, State Budget Director, also attended the meeting.

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Mr. Blakeman took up with the Board the question of making an allotment to the Towson Normal School of \$3,000.00 for the purpose of making necessary repairs to the building, the money to come from the grant money to be received from the United States Government in connection with work being done at said institution.

The Board approved the recommendation of Mr. Blakeman that \$3,000.00 be made available to the Towson Normal School out of the money to be thus received.

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Mr. Blakeman took up with the Board the matter of some correspondence he had had with Rosewood State Training School relative to the construction of a satisfactory water treatment plant at the institution.

The Board recognized the desirability and necessity of the work being done, but was unable to make available any money to the institution for the purpose of paying for the work. The Governor stated that he would give the matter consideration at the time of the preparation of any program he would have for recommendations to the General Assembly of 1937.

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Dept. of Correction

The Budget Director took up with the Board the question of a prospective deficit in the accounts of the Board of Welfare in connection with the operation of the penal institutions.

The Board advised Mr. Blakeman that it did not feel that they could authorize the borrowing of funds to take care of the impending deficit. The Board did say, however, that if as the end of the fiscal approaches, the Board of Welfare finds itself facing a deficit, the Board of Public Works would take the matter under consideration at that time and decide what to do about it.

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The Governor took up with the Board the question of making payment of certain requisitions prepared by Mr. Clyde N. Friz, Architect, for payment on account of work being done at the Executive Mansion.

The Board authorized the payment of certificate in favor of John

P. Knipp and Sons in the amount of \$2,616.00 on account of the work being done by that concern under its contract. The Board also authorized the payment to the Towson Nurseries of \$1,262.00, covered by receipt of Mr. Friz, on account of work done by the Towson Nurseries.

The Budget Director took up with the Board the question of the necessity of appointing two telephone operators at the Maryland State Police Headquarters in Baltimore to relieve two policemen who had been acting in that capacity during the period of their inability to perform active service owing to injuries.

The Board authorized the appointment of the operators covered by budget amendment to be submitted by the Superintendent of the Maryland State Police.

Dr. Homer E. Tabler, Chairman of the State Roads Commission, and Mr. Nathan Smith, Chief Engineer of the Commission, submitted for approval budget amendments # 8 and # 8A of the State Roads Commission, dated July 14th, 1936.

The Board reviewed these amendments and concurred with the Governor in the approval of them.

State Roads

Dr. Tabler and Mr. Smith took up with the Board the question of bridges to be built in Western Maryland arising out of the damage done by the flood last March.

The Board gave a great deal of consideration to the bridge at Harpers Ferry, particularly in the acquiring of the rights of the bridge company now owning the franchise for the operation of a bridge over the Potomac River at that point. The Governor stated that the Honorable H. G. Kump, Governor of the State of West Virginia, would appear before the Board later in the day to take up the question of the acquisition of the bridge at the present time owned by the B. and O. Railroad Company, which has an agreement with the bridge company for the use of the railroad bridge in connection with the operation of trains by the railroad company, for automobile traffic. The Board considered acquiring the rights of the bridge company and also the proposition to build a bridge at Sandy Hook. The matter was left open for discussion with the Governor of West Virginia, attorneys for the bridge company, and Governor Cornwell, General Counsel of the B. and O. Railroad Company, when the meeting of those gentlemen would be held later in the day. It was stated that if a new bridge were to be erected at Sandy Hook, the cost to the State of Maryland would be approximately \$142,000.00, the cost to the State of West Virginia approximately \$142,000.00, with the United States Government contributing an amount equal to the amount to be contributed by the two States.

State Roads

Dr. Tabler and Mr. Smith took up with the Board the question of bridges at Shepardstown and Hancock and went over these items quite thoroughly and a plan submitted by the State Roads Commission, through the Chairman and the Chief Engineer, was concurred in by the Board of Public Works.

State Roads

At this point the Governor of West Virginia, the Attorney General of West Virginia, Governor Cornwell, General Counsel of the B. and O. Railroad Company, Mr. Carlyle L. Barton, Counsel for the bridge company, and others, appeared before the Board of Public Works.

After much discussion of the proposition, the Board of Public Works and Governor Kump agreed to offer the bridge company the sum of \$75,000.00 for all of its rights in connection with the operation of a bridge at Harpers Ferry, the States to make their arrangements with the B. and O. Railroad Company pending the erection of a new bridge, the States to divide this amount equally between them. The Attorneys for the bridge company said that they would submit the proposition to their principals and report back to the Board if the offer is acceptable.

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Their being no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Secretary